

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for embedding an identification code into a digital audio recording file, and tracking, and cataloging the encoded audio recording's broadcasts and transmissions to ensure proper compensation due at least one performance artist responsible for generating content on said digital audio file, said method comprising the steps of:

embedding an identification code within a digital audio recording file;

transferring said encoded digital audio recording file onto a digital signal compatible medium;

transmitting said encoded digital audio recording file as an encoded audio signal, wherein the transmitting is from a radio or television station broadcast, including cable and satellite networks and internet websites;

receiving said encoded audio signal by a suitable digital signal detecting device;

feeding the received and encoded audio signal into a cross phasing means that increases the accuracy in of an encoded signal monitoring means,

feeding the cross-phased received and encoded audio signal into a said monitoring means, which monitoring means that recognizes the identification code, and, based on said identification code records and stores the identification code and transmission and broadcast related data as a batch file, said broadcast related data including a date that the encoded audio signal was monitored, a time of day that the encoded audio signal was monitored, and the duration of the monitored encoded audio signal; and

decoding and importing the batch file into a first database that catalogs performance, transmission and broadcast data of the encoded audio signal, and is capable of printing the data

using said first database to accurately compensate the at least one performance artist responsible for generating content on said digital audio recording file.

2. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification code embedded in the audio signal is a digital watermark.

3. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of embedding the identification code is performed by encoding software.
4. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification code is in the form of a non-audible digital signal that is not rendered inoperable by one or more generations of analog taping and broadcast compressions.
5. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of searching a second digital work library database to match the embedded identification code with the title of a digital audio work and its associated file information, and importing said title and associated file information from said second digital work library database into the first database.
6. (new) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of using the embedded identification code to match the digital audio work's title to the recorded and stored transmission or broadcast related data and printing a digital audio work usage report having both the title of the digital audio work and the transmission and broadcast related data.
7. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the digital audio recording file further comprises video or multimedia.
8. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the first database is represented in the form of cue sheets.
9. (new) A method for tracking and cataloging an audio recording's broadcasts and transmissions to ensure proper compensation due at least one performance artist responsible for generating content on said audio recording, said method comprising the steps of:
receiving said audio recording as an encoded audio signal, wherein the encoded audio signal is transmitted from a radio or television station broadcast, including cable and satellite networks and internet websites;

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feeding the received and encoded audio signal into a monitoring means, which monitoring means recognizes an identification code of the audio recording, and, based on the identification code records and stores the identification code and transmission and broadcast related data as a batch file, said broadcast related data including a date that the encoded audio signal was monitored, a time of day that the encoded audio signal was monitored, and the duration of the monitored encoded audio signal;

decoding and importing the batch file into a first database that catalogs the transmission and broadcast related data of the encoded audio signal, and

using said first database to prepare cue sheets containing the transmission and broadcast data as a means for compensating the at least one performance artist responsible for generating content on the encoded audio recording.

10. (new) The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of searching a second audio work library database to match the identification code with the title of an audio work and its associated file information, and importing said title and associated file information from said second audio work library database into the first database.

11. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of using the identification code to match the audio work's title to the recorded and stored transmission or broadcast related data and printing an audio work usage report having both the title of the digital audio work and the transmission and broadcast related data.